

Message Text

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61

ORIGIN COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 EB-11 RSC-01 /038 R

DRAFTED BY COM/ BEWT: RSEVERANCE/ JELLIS

5/4/73 189-2645

APPROVED BY EUR/ EE: JABAKER

COM/ BEWT/ OD: JTCONNOR

FB/ EWT: OANDERSON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PRAGUE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 085369

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BEXP, US

SUBJECT: US EXECUTIVE LEVEL TRADE MISSION TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA

REF: PRAGUE 934

FROM COMMERCE

1. COMMERCE DEPARTMENT APPREHENSIVE ABOUT BRINGING HIGH LEVEL GROUP TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA UNLESS IT RECEIVES SPECIFIC ASSURANCE THAT THESE EXECUTIVES WILL BE RECEIVED AT THE MINISTERIAL AND GENERAL DIRECTOR LEVEL. THE OUTSTANDING BUSINESS RESPONSE RECEIVED TO DATE HAS BEEN PREDICATED ON THIS ASSUMPTION. WOULD RECONSIDER DOING PROJECT UNLESS SUCH ASSURANCES RECEIVED.

2. COMMERCE DEPARTMENT REQUESTS THAT EMBASSY OBTAIN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THE ASSURANCES OF CHAMBER PRESIDENT CERNY AND/ OR MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE BARCAK THAT THE AMERICAN EXECUTIVES WILL BE RECEIVED AT THE MINISTER OR DIRECTOR GENERAL LEVEL IN EACH OF THE APPROPRIATE INDUSTRIAL MINISTRIES.

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3. COMMERCE DEPARTMENT PERPLEXED THAT EMBASSY NOW
COUNSELLING THE USE OF RAPID WHEN DURING DISCUSSIONS IN
PRAGUE CONNOR WAS TOLD THAT SUCH AGENTS WERE RELATIVELY

USELESS. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE APPRECIATES THE NEED
TO TAKE SOME LOAD OFF THE EMBASSY AND PLANS SEND COMMERCE
DESK OFFICER ELLIS TO PRAGUE ONE WEEK IN ADVANCE OF
MISSION. HE WILL REMAIN THROUGH THE DURATION OF THE
MISSION AND COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE
IF EMBASSY DEEMS THIS IS DESIRABLE. HE WILL HAVE
RESOURCES TO HIRE SECRETARIAL AND OTHER ASSISTANCE IF
NECESSARY. ELLIS SPEAKS RUSSIAN AND GERMAN.

4. DETAILS REQUESTED PARA 3 REFTEL WILL FOLLOW SOONEST.

5. AGREE WITH EMBASSY/ MINISTRY RECOMMENDATION THAT
EXECUTIVES MAKE PRAGUE THEIR BASE OF OPERATIONS, DESPITE
HOTEL SITUATION. APPRECIATE EMBASSY/ MINISTRY EFFORTS TO
MAKE SPACE AVAILABLE FOR APPROXIMATELY TEN PERSONS (ON
ONE FLOOR OF HOTEL IF POSSIBLE) FOR LENGTH OF MISSION. RUSH

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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